



The Marker Lamp



Volume 56

Number 3

Summer 2010

Great time in San Antonio

Great Food . . . Great Layouts what more could you ask for!



*60th Anniversary
LSR Convention*

*Lubbock, Texas
June 9-12, 2011*

*Mark your calendar
to attend*

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The Marker Lamp

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The Lone Star Region of The
National Model
Railroad Association

Volume 56, Number 3

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The editorial policy of **The Marker Lamp**, the official publication of **The Lone Star Region**, shall be to contribute, wherever possible, to the promotion, growth and understanding of the hobby of Model Railroading, within the confines of good taste and responsibility.

The Marker Lamp is published once each quarter by and for the members of **The Lone Star Region of The National Model Railroad Association**.

Articles appearing in **The Marker Lamp** are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or policies of the officers or membership of **The Lone Star Region** or **The National Model Railroad Association**.

Address all correspondence, news, photos and drawings to the editor. All material will be gladly accepted and will be used depending on the availability of space and suitability of material. None will be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided.

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President's Message

by Bill McPherson

The Alamo Rails 2010 Convention in San Antonio was an exciting cornucopia of model and prototype railroading and non-rail opportunities. From touring the "real" railroad Union Pacific yards, Fort Sam or quarry facilities, to the 7 1/2" gauge "rideable" trains, to the fine-scaled miniature trains on club and home layouts, you could do it all in one of Texas' most entertaining cities. Paul Steves, Chairman, Al Boos, Co-Chairman, and an enthusiastic hard-working group of assistants from throughout Division 6 assured that the Rails, Non-Rails and Cabooses would have plenty to do.

One of the most enjoyable activities for Fredda and me at all conventions is spending time with new and old friends. The Friday night picnic at the Texas Transportation Museum and other group events in San Antonio gave us ample opportunities to enjoy these friendships again.

At the Saturday night banquet, Steve Priest had a fascinating presentation about his life as an ATSF road engineer and major yard trainmaster and as a model railroading craftsman and publisher. Dave Lamberts gave a very entertaining preview of the **2011 LSR Convention in Lubbock**. I remember the great time we had at the last convention in Lubbock. I have been savoring a repeat of the top sirloin we had at the banquet. This time you won't believe the "fine" eating place and menu Dave has lined up. Jack Rabbit steak sounds "interesting". **This will be the 60th anniversary of the LSR**, so start making your plans to attend the 2011 Lubbock convention because it will be a lot of fun.

We welcome our newly elected Director-at-Large Duane Richardson and Directors Jack Merkel, Division 4, and Tom Crosthwait, Division 6. The other directors were reelected. Mike Jobe will be sharing the Membership Co-Chairmanship with Larry Swigert which will most beneficial while Larry recovers from his recent cancer surgery. They have a lot of activity each month encouraging new members and retaining the present ones.

Gil and Virginia Freitag are two of the greatest treasures of the Lone Star Region. Gil is continuing to improve, which shows the power of prayers from many people all over the world. Please continue to remember him with your thoughts of friendship and support.

Tom Browning has done an outstanding job as Youth Program Chairman for the past few years. Now he is passing these responsibilities to Robert "Bob" Mangrum, Ph.D. as the new Youth Chairman. Bob has also agreed to be the LSR Parliamentarian, another natural role for him since he has taught parliamentary procedures during his 30 year career as professor of American history at Howard Payne University in Brownwood.

View from the Spar Pole

By Chuck Lind, MMR

The new NMRA logo is on this issue of the *Marker Lamp*. More information about it is in this issue.

The big news in our household is retirement, mine. I will be retiring from Texas A&M AgriLife August 31, 2010. Don't worry Laurie won't be far behind with her retirement scheduled for the end of January.

Because of this please make note of my new E-mail address as well as my phone number.

cr-lind@suddenlink.net
979-219-3305

While we will still be at the same address most of the time, we will be spending more time at the lake so I am listing my cell number as my main contact number. We use the land line less and less, so we don't check the messages as well as we used to.

Plans for retirement are to spend some additional time doing furniture building in the shop as well as spend a little more time working on the railroad. In talking with other that have retired they say that they don't know how they had time for work with all that keeps them busy in their retirement years. I am sure that Laurie will have a great deal of input into how my time is spent.

Right after I retire I plan to make my yearly trip up to the Narrow Gauge Convention which will be held in St. Louis this year. St. Louis is the city where the Narrow Gauge conventions started 30 years ago and is still going strong. They have several very good layouts that will be on tour and this year marks the last night of comments by Charlie Getz at the awards ceremony which will be missed at future conventions. I will also be making a trip up to Mt Pleasant, Iowa to see one of the remaining West Side Lumber Company shays, the number 9. I visited it a few years back but to see it steamed up is going to be a thrill as compared to just viewing it in the enginehouse. If all goes according to plans we have been told we could have a cab ride which I am looking forward to.

You have plenty of time to get ready for next year's convention in Lubbock. This year in San Antonio I helped judge. The contest room, while we had several very good models, we didn't have very many models entered. I am hoping that this isn't a sign of the times, and that we are just not building models. So let's try and fill up the contest room in Lubbock and that goes for the ladies also. So everyone get busy, I know that we will be working around the Lind household and that goes for Laurie too.

Minutes of the Lone Star Region Board Meeting

San Antonio, TX – June 6, 2010

President Bill McPherson called the Annual Board meeting to order. The President spoke briefly about the Board members moving forward from “Being Prepared” into the actual accomplishment of tasks by following the principles of Planning, Organizing, Do It, and Follow Up, the acronym P O D F U.

Roll Call

All of the officers, directors, and committee chairpersons were present except: Division 4 (Elect) Director Jack Merkel (proxy assigned to Chuck Lind), Dispatcher Chair Matt Latham and Nominations Chair Gary McMills. Early in the meeting outgoing Director Fred Bock assigned his proxy to Tom Crosthwait.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Chuck Lind provided a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 23, 2010 Board of Directors meeting published in the 2010 winter issue of *The Marker Lamp*. Bill Dryden seconded the motion, and the Board passed the motion.

Officers' Reports

Secretary/Treasurer Tom Browning

The Secretary/Treasurer's report, which had been submitted to the Board members prior to the meeting, was summarized. The beginning balance as of May 1, 2009 (Fiscal Year 2009-2010) was \$40,578.43, and the ending balance on April 30, 2010 was \$40,263.72. This balance excludes amounts held for Division 1 and Division 3. The membership of the LSR beginning May 1, 2009 was 1013 and on April 30, 2010 was 988. Of special note is that May 31, 2010 was 1017. During the fiscal year the membership got to as low as 979. Bob Bray provided the motion to approve the Sec/Tres Report. Jerry Hoverson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Director's Reports

Division 1 Director Chris Atkins reported that six meetings per year are working very well. At each meeting refreshments are provided and a door prize is given. These meetings have a variety of clinics. Readers of the Cowcatcher Round-up awarded Division 1 a certificate of recognition for the 2009 DFW Convention.

Division 2 Director Dick Schneider reported that weekly breakfast meetings have begun and are gaining momentum. Soon clinics will become a part of the meetings. A number of potential participants are being encouraged to join or rejoin.

Division 3 Director Jerry Hoverson reported that the division has been extremely busy with monthly meetings. A wide variety of clinics and activities take place each month. Members have been introduced to operations, static grass applica-

tors, eBay, DCC and many other subjects relating to model railroading. Division 3 has several members actively pursuing Achievement Program certificates.

Division 4 Director Bill Dryden reported that the Austin Jam-boree and Train Show were a success. He also welcomed Jack Merkel to the Division 4 Directorship.

Division 5 Director Dave Lamberts reported earlier regarding the 2011 LSR Convention.

Division 6 Director Fred Bock and Tom Crosthwait reported that most of the division's activities went toward preparing for the 2010 Alamo Rails Convention.

Division 7 Director Don Kimmell reported that membership levels continue to remain fairly constant. The division actively participates in train shows and visits Boy Scout Troops around the area.

Division 8 Director Ray Byer indicated that his report was in the last Marker Lamp.

Director-At-Large Bob Bray did not submit a report.

Director-At-Large Chuck Lind did not submit a report.

Director-At-Large Tracy Mitchell did not submit a report.

Department Reports

Achievement Chair Al Boos reported that two Golden Spike Awards were earned and seventeen achievement certificates were awarded during the period from June 7, 2009 through June 6, 2010.

Contest Chair Duane Richardson reported that the 2010 contest went well and thanked everyone for the work provided to make the contest a success.

Convention Chair Bill McPherson handed out the comparison of the previous conventions. This report highlights attendance, convention details, and financial results from 2001 through 2009.

Dispatcher Matthew Latham submitted a dispatcher report on April 15, 2010 detailing the number and kinds of cars and decals available for sale.

Historian Chair Jim Long did not submit a report.

Nominating Chair Gary McMills did not submit a report since he had done so at the Annual Meeting.

Non-Rail Virginia Freitag did not submit a report.

Publications Chair Chuck Lind reported that four issues of *The Marker Lamp* were edited and sent to all members in the region. The winter issue was delayed one week to make sure the Minutes of the January Board meeting were included. The ballot went into *The Marker Lamp* and saved the \$500 cost of a separate mailing. Chuck Lind thanked all of the directors for reports submitted throughout the year.

Website Chair Duane Richardson reported that almost everything has been updated on the LSR Website.

Youth Chair Tom Browning reported that since the Mid-Year Board meeting three additional youths were nominated and approved by email. Those youths are Austin Jones of Division 3, Cole Adams of Division 5 and Robbie Price of Division 8.

Membership Co-Chairs Larry Swigert and Mike Jobe reported that they meet every Wednesday evening to cover events relating to membership. The goals of the Membership team are to increase membership, welcome new members, retain members, assure membership data are accurate and complete, and to work closely with the National Headquarters.

Events Chair Bill Dryden reports that he needs ninety days notice to get an event published in *The Marker Lamp*. He also reported that events he lists are within and for the region only, and he does not report events outside the region.

Photography Chair Dave Lamberts reported that he would compile the photos he took during the convention and send a disk containing them to those who so requested.

Education Chair Tracy Mitchell had no report but expects to provide a report at the next Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Although not requiring Board approval, President Bill McPherson recognized Dr. Robert "Bob" Mangrum as the new Youth Chair and Larry Swigert and Mike Jobe as Membership Co-Chairs.

Bill Dryden provided a motion and seconded by Loren Neufeld to ratify the new youths. The motion passed. Those youths are Austin Jones of Division 3, Cole Adams of Division 5 and Robbie Price of Division 8.

Bill Dryden provided a motion and seconded by Chuck Lind that the Walter Zahn donation be set up in a restricted account so that the funds will only become available at a rate of \$200.00 each year for five years. The motion passed.

Ray Byer provided a motion and seconded by Chris Atkins to make the Website an additional official publication for the Lone Star Region contest rules. The discussion of this motion centered on the importance of publishing the Contest Room Rules six months prior to their effective date. After lengthy discussion the motion passed.

Bill Dryden provided a motion and seconded by Chris Atkins that the LSR website be an additional official publication site for the Lone Star Region. This motion failed.

Paul Steves reported that the 2010 Alamo Rails Convention had great participation and expects to have the final accounting soon.

Board Advisor Jerry Schoenberg reviewed the discussion from the previous Board meeting regarding the possibility of reinstating the subscription fee for *The Marker Lamp*. He advised the Board to not do anything in this regard so that we do not lose membership. He also reminded the Board of the merit of capping the LSR net worth at \$40,000.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Loren Neufeld provided a motion and seconded by Jerry Hoverson that the following newly elected Directors be ratified:

Division 2 Director - Dick Schneider - Reelected

Division 4 Director - Jack Merkel - Elected

Division 6 Director - Tom Crothwait - Elected

Division 8 Director - Ray Byer - Reelected

Director-At-Large - Chuck Lind - Reelected

Director-At-Large - Tracy Mitchell - Reelected

Director-At-Large - Duane Richardson - Elected

The motion passed.

Loren Neufeld provided a motion and seconded by Jerry Schoenberg that the LSR continue to provide *The Marker Lamp* free to all LSR members. After a lengthy discussion regarding the pros and cons, the motion passed.

Ray Byer provided a motion to increase the per capita fee from two (\$2.00), as provided in By-Laws Article V Section 5, to seven (\$7.00). The motion was not seconded and therefore died on the table.

Ray Byer provided a motion to increase the auction fee from the present 5% to 10% for the LSR and from 5% to 10% for the Host Convention. The motion was not seconded and therefore died on the table.

The Board also discussed Hybrid *Marker Lamp* distribution (some mail and some email), changing the Net Proceeds split for the convention, and changing the Dealer and Pike ad fee. No motions were provided.

Jerry Hoverson provided a motion and seconded by Tracy Mitchell to increase the Convention Contest budget from \$300.00 to \$500.00. The motion passed.

Chuck Lind provided a motion and seconded by Chris Atkins to approve the proposed budget as changed by the motion above. The motion passed.

Jerry Schoenberg provided a motion and seconded by Ray Byer to ask the Lubbock Convention Chair, Dave Lamberts specify how the \$263.72 will be spent. This is the amount above the \$40,000.00 cap on the LSR net worth at the end of the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 on April 30, 2010. The motion passed.

Don Kimmell provided a motion and seconded by Ray Byer to destroy the ballots from the preceding election. The motion passed.

Chuck Lind provided a motion and seconded by Ray Byer to adjourn this meeting. The motion passed. The Board meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Lone Star Region Parliamentarian

With great pleasure I announce the appointment of Robert G. "Bob" Mangrum, Ph.D. as the Parliamentarian for the Lone Star Region. Bob also serves as the Youth Chair for the LSR.

Bob has substantial experience in conducting meetings in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. He is currently the Mayor of the City of Early, near Brownwood, Texas and conducts the city's meetings using the Rules of Order. He has taught training courses in Robert's Rules which have been modified so as to be practical for small organizations.

As the Parliamentarian for our organization Bob will provide considerable experience in developing the Board Meeting agenda and other items for our meetings. At the meetings he will assist the attendees in conducting the meetings in an orderly and responsive manner in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition).

Bob grew up in Richardson. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of North Texas at Denton and has been a professor of American History for 30 years at Howard Payne University in Brownwood. He served in the U. S. Army-Infantry for 28 years and retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Bob has an excellent website at <http://www.trainweb.org/txsouthern/> Please take a look at what he has accomplished, especially his track warrants.

Bill McPherson
LSR President

LADIES ONLY!

Petticoat Junction

Wow! We had a great time in San Antonio. Thanks to Evie and her crew for keeping us busy, but still giving us time to shop a bit and free time to play/shop on our own.

Our trip to Central Market was both educational and tasty. I am looking forward to trying the recipes for our Fourth of July family gathering. And even though I lived in San Antonio for five years, I have never enjoyed the River Walk as much as this trip. Our boat driver/guide was a hoot!

There were several of you missing in San Antonio, but our schedules are so busy now days that it is indeed hard to fit everything in. Speaking of schedules, consider this your "Save the Day" invitation. Next year we will be going to Lubbock. WAIT! Don't stop reading! This will be Liz's first shot at planning a non-rail program, so we need to show our support. I suggested she use email like we did with the Round Rock convention. If you did not give her your (not your husband's) email in San Antonio, please take the time to send her a note so you will know all the plans for next year (davidwl1944@aol.com).

Now, let's talk about next year...that's right, here it comes....We need you to get busy and make something (or several things) for the contest room. Liz has already come up with a theme for Lubbock – West Texas Energy. That could be any number of things...Oil .. Windmills (both old and new) .. Horse Power (both animal and machine) .. Sun Power .. Man/Woman Power .. What a great theme (and we have plenty of time to come up with something special).

And speaking of the contest room, some of the new non-rail members are not sure about the contest categories, so read on...

1. Arts and Craft General – Other than Railroadiana, Needlework or Theme. Can be from a kit (which includes plans, instructions and materials), Pattern (where the entrant acquires material separately), or an original design from the entrant. Please specify kit, pattern or original on your entry form.
2. Arts and Craft Railroadiana – Same as General except entry must have a railroad motif.
3. Arts and Craft Needlework – Same as General except entry is a type of stitchery (knitting, embroidery, needlepoint, sewing, etc.).
4. Arts and Craft Theme – Same as General except the subject is choose by the Host Committee.

This year I am even going to enter something in the contest. I have already printed the Contest Entry Form and the Judges' Score Sheet from the Lone Star Region website www.lonestarregion.com/convention. The reason I mention this is that if you make your notes as you construct your project, you will make a better score (cause you will forget the little details and that is what is so important to the judges). Just lookin' pretty is not enough!

LSR Youth Membership Program

By Tom Browning, LSR Youth Chair

Sometimes it makes sense to step back from a program and ask what can we attribute to its success. It begins with a strong backing by the LSR leadership. The leadership felt strongly enough about the Youth Membership Program (YMP) to make it a part of our By-Laws. Article VI of our By-Laws states that the objective is to promote model railroading among young people to our hobby and our organization. The method to achieve this objective is to sponsor a one-year Student membership in the NMRA/LSR. Each division director implements the Youth Membership Program by recruiting a youth. I thank the division directors for making the YMP.

During the Alamo Rails 2010 convention our President, **Bill McPherson** appointed **Bob Mangrum** to be our new Youth Chair. I will support Bob and assist him in any way he asks. Please join me in welcoming Bob as our new Youth Chair.

For the last several years **Bob Brendle** has made important contributions to the youth in our region. Bob has generously sponsored the **Sam Brendle Youth Convention Scholarship** that provides funds to a youth and parent to attend the LSR convention. This year **Robbie Price** and his Mother, **Cora** were the recipients and attended the Alamo Rails Convention. Bob, thank you so much!!!



As you may have heard, one of the more exciting things to happen at the Milwaukee Convention was the introduction of the NMRA's new logo. This stylized "wheel on rail" logo will give us a fresh, new look and help position the NMRA as a forward thinking organization that's preparing for its next 75 years.

Below is a short explanation of the new logo, which was printed on a flyer that was handed out to all NMRA members who entered the National Train Show Friday morning at 9:00, to be greeted by a 7-foot banner of the logo. Please use it in your newsletters and websites.

Welcome to the new NMRA logo... and in many ways, the new NMRA. On its face this wheel-on-rail symbol represents the oldest of the NMRA's objectives: interoperability.

Yet, it also represents the future. It's a symbol of our willingness to keep pace with the changes all around us. Changes in our world, in our lives, in our hobby. While it honors the achievements of the past 75 years, it commits us to the continuation of those achievements in the next 75.

Most important, our new logo is a symbol of the NMRA's commitment to you. As your wants and needs evolve, so will we, with expanded content on our website, easier accessibility to the information in our Library, and programs designed to position us well for another seven-and-a-half decades.

"NMRA" now replaces "National Model Railroad Association" and becomes our brand, just as "NFL," "AARP," and "CBS" have become brands in their respective fields.

We've even renamed our magazine "NMRA Magazine" to further reinforce that brand. And our website, <http://www.nmra.org/> will become "your portal to more fun in scale model railroading."

So as we move into tomorrow, think of our new NMRA logo as a symbol of our promise to you - and our promises to each other - that we'll all keep the hobby of scale model railroading alive, vibrant, and ready for the future.

If you have any special logo needs, please email me and we'll see what we can do.

Here's to our next 75 years!

Gerry Leone, MMR
NMRA Communications Director

Company Store

HO

N-Scale

Waco Austin & Bryan	OUT	100 avail.
ITC - Bob Clarke	OUT	50 sets avail.

Cars are \$2.00 each. 2 car sets are \$4.00.

Check your layout and be sure you have one of each *special run* Region car. If not we can take care of the shortage post haste.

Other items available

Cloth Region Patches	\$5.00 each
Auto/Window Region Decal	\$.50
N Scale Nevada Decals	\$2.00 per sheet
HO&N Scale Daw Cha Southern Decals	\$3.00 per sheet

Shipping

Please add \$5.00 for up to 3 cars and add \$1.00 for patches and decals

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Up The Track

By Bill Dryden

Here is the list of the upcoming events within the LSR of which I am aware. I will provide all the information YOU send me or I can glean from other publications, websites, etc., for these events. Additional information may be available through the NMRA *Scale Rails* and/or various trade magazines or various websites. Please forward any and all information about upcoming events or activities in your area, club, etc., to me via email at bdr149@airmail.net. Also, note that all show times and dates are at the discretion of the sponsoring organization and are subject to change.

LSR CONVENTION: Lone Star Region 60th Annual Convention (2011) Lubbock, TX The Lone Star Region NMRA 60th Annual Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn. Check the LSR website. Come all!! **PARTICIPATE!!!**

RECURRING EVENTS AND MEETINGS:

LSR Division 3 - Northeast Texas Division

Garland

Monthly Meeting Nicholson Memorial Library, 625 Austin St., Garland, TX Third Saturday of each month. For more information contact Jerry Hoverson, MMR jhoverson@tx.rr.com or the Division 3 Page on the LSR website.

Alamo Model Railroad Engineers Meeting

San Antonio

The Alamo Model Railroad Engineers meet the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Zucht Building at the Texas Transportation Museum, 11791 Wetmore Rd., San Antonio TX. For more information call Peter Shavney (210) 317-3661 or Gene Turner (210) 355-2777, or visit the web site www.alamomodelrailroadengineers.com.

Houston Area Live Steamers

Hockley TX

Over 9,000 feet of track for you to enjoy and ride. Someone is usually there every Saturday with special run, operations, waybills/timetable, work and fun run days scheduled throughout the year. Our public run days are the third Saturday of the month March through November. Come see our 2,500 foot expansion in Phase 4. Model Railroaders (any scale) are welcome to attend most any time. Check our web site out at www.hals.org for schedule of events or e-mail Peter Bryan at peterb@pdq.net for more information.

EVENTS AND SHOWS:

September

18th – 19th Centra-Mod 28th Annual Temple Train Show, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Adults \$5, Children 12 and Under Free with Adult (discounts for seniors and active duty military and dependents with ID) Frank Mayborn Convention Center,

Temple, TX. For more information, contact Jim Bush (254) 449-0593 or email jtkbush@embarqmail.com. Check for show updates at www.centramod.com

October

2nd – 3rd 22nd Annual Train Show, Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 AM to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$7 per person or \$10 per family, Lice Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Road, Live Oak (NE San Antonio area), TX. For more information: <http://www.txtransportationmuseum.org/AMRE.htm> or e-mail at amreshow@satx.rr.com

9th – 10th LMRA 28th Annual Model Train Show, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$7, Children 10 and Under Free with adult ticket, Lockheed/Martin Recreational Area, 3400 Bryant Irvin Road; Ft. Worth, TX. For more information, contact: <http://www.lmra.org/activity.html>

16th – 17th Houston Railroad Museum Big Texas Train Show, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$8, 16 and Under Free with adult ticket, George R. Brown Convention Center, 1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, TX. For more information, call (832) 675-190 or www.bigtexastrainshow.com.

23rd Austin Area Model Railroad Jamboree, Sat. 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Clinics starting at 9:00 a.m., Layout tours Saturday and Sunday afternoons, Breakfast and lunch items will be available Saturday, Adults \$5, Children \$2, First United Methodist Church, 1004 North Mays St., Round Rock, TX. For more information call Tom Pearson (512) 388-2918

30th – 31st North Texas Council 2010 Fort Worth Area Train Show, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 AM to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$7, 12 and Under Free with adult ticket, Boy Scouts and Boy Scout leaders free, Amon G. Carter Exhibits Building, Will Rogers Memorial Center, #1 Amon Carter Square, Fort Worth, TX. For more information: www.dfwtrainshows.com.

November

6th – 7th Texas & Pacific Railroad Museum Annual Model Train Show and Shopping Extravaganza, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Adults \$5, 12 and Under free, Marshall Civic Center, Marshall TX.

January 2011

15th – 16th North Texas Council 2010 Dallas Area Train Show, Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Adults \$7, 12 and Under Free with adult ticket, Plano Centre; Plano, TX. For more information: www.dfwtrainshows.com.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

by Tom Browning

For the Fourth Fiscal Quarter of 2009/2010

Beginning Balance 02/01/2010	
LSR Checking Account	\$1,772.31
Vanguard CD Fund	\$36,806.12
Acct Receivable Due 2010 Convention	\$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	\$40,578.43

Not included in Total LSR Net Worth

Funds Held For Division 1	\$1,815.48
Funds Held For Division 3	\$305.68

LSR Proceeds

Vanguard CD Fund Interest	\$1.46
Vanguard Convention Fund Interest	\$0.57
Pike Ads	\$128.00
Cars	\$324.00
NMRA Region Rebate	\$944.00
Walter Zahn Donation	\$1,000.00
Total Proceeds	\$2,398.03

LSR Disbursements

Marker Lamp Printing and Mailing	\$1,309.84
Youth Membership Program	\$84.00
Total Disbursements	\$1,337.84

Net Proceeds/ Disbursements

Ending Balance 04/30/2010	\$1,060.19
LSR Checking Accounts Total	\$2,756.87
Vanguard Money Market Accts Total	\$35,506.85
Acct Receivable Due 2010 Convention	\$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	\$40,263.72

Not included in Total LSR Net Worth

Funds Held For Division 1	\$3,545.87
Funds Held For Division 3	\$1,450.89

For the Fiscal Year of 2009/2010

Beginning Balance 05/01/2009	
LSR Checking Account	-\$153.02
Vanguard CD Fund	\$36,806.12
Acct Receivable Due 2010 Convention	\$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	\$38,653.10

Not included in Total LSR Net Worth

Funds Held For Division 1	\$2,153.00
Funds Held For Division 3	\$305.68

LSR Proceeds

Vanguard CD Fund Interest	\$76.34
Vanguard Convention Fund Interest	\$28.20
Transfer from Vanguard CD Fund	\$2,000.00
Transfer from closing Guaranty	\$275.62
Pike Ad	\$240.00
Dealer Ad	\$16.00
Subscriptions	\$6.00
Cars	\$689.00
NMRA Region Rebate	\$1,888.00
Convention Advance Return	\$1,000.00
Convention Proceeds	\$1,665.13
Walter Zahn Donation	\$1,000.00
Total Proceeds	\$8,884.29

LSR Disbursements

Marker Lamp Printing and Mailing	\$4,902.29
Youth Membership Program	\$140.00
SecTres Expense and Postage	\$241.62
2010 Convention Advance	\$1,000.00 *
Convention General Expense	\$80.11
Contest Expense	\$438.56
Historian Expense	\$12.99
Achievement Program Expense	\$57.98
Website Expense	\$49.50
LeRoy King Memorial Donation	\$75.00
Transfer from closing Guaranty	\$275.62
Total Disbursements	\$7,273.67

Net Proceeds/ Disbursements

Ending Balance 04/30/2010	\$1,610.62
LSR Checking Accounts Total	\$2,756.87
Vanguard Money Market Accts Total	\$35,506.85
Acct Receivable Due 2010 Convention	\$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	\$40,263.72

Not included in Total LSR Net Worth

Funds Held For Division 1	\$3,545.87
Funds Held For Division 3	\$1,450.89

* The total advance was \$2,000.00 where \$1,000.00 was advanced in the previous fiscal year.

On May 27, 2010, Division 4 funds were transferred into the LSR checking account. These funds, amounting to \$4,255.60, will be held for Division 4 and be available for their use. In the next Sec-Tres Report these funds will be shown similar to Division 1 and 3.

At the end of December 2009 our membership was 969 and at the end of April 2010 membership was 989. Please welcome our new members listed below. When you run into them, say hello, and invite them to attend your model railroading activities.

William Ardis, Frisco, TX - 3
 Virginia Jobe, Royce City, TX - 3
 Anneliese Alexander, San Antonio, TX - 6
 Bill Gray, New Braunfels, TX - 6
 Lawrence Martin, Live Oak, TX - 6
 Kenneth Broadus, Mount Pleasant, TX - 7

San Antonio Convention 2010 Memories



FROM THE PAST (Summer 1985)

By Jim Long, MMR LSR Historian

Saturdays just won't be the same since Richard Elvey retired from the Hobby shop business after thirty years of service to San Antonio and South Texas model railroaders. While on the theme of Good Shows, Dick's "First and Final Sale" was talked about frequently at his retirement roast.

The John E. "Pop" Loeffler Service Award was presented to Joe R. Thompson of Jayton, Texas at the Dallas Convention.

A new Sustaining Membership has been established in the LSR. This membership class is available for all members of the region and costs only \$3 over the regular membership dues (Life members need only pay \$3 per year). For this additional money, the sustaining member will have all the rights and privileges of the regular membership, will receive a certificate of membership suitable for framing, will have his or her name printed in the Marker Lamp once a year, and will have the personal satisfaction of helping the region.

Bob Clarke of Schertz, Texas reports that TOOTHPICKS are good for things other than pickin' yer teeth. Use toothpicks (I like the round ones) to transfer small amounts glue to the impossible to get at or those small areas. Toothpicks can be used in lieu of paint brushes for small details. You can put eyeballs on an HO figure with this nifty applicator! Diminutive details on vehicles, people, animals, castings, etc. are a breeze when you use the toothpick brush. Simply take a toothpick and dab the end in the desired color of paint and apply it, presto, no fuss, no mess, no runs. Another use for this sliver of wood in to glue 1/2 inch lengths into your scenery where trees are to be planted, next drill a receptacle hole in the bottom of the tree trunk. Place trunk over toothpick and you have removable trees, to allow changing of scenery or to perform maintenance with out breaking the trees' Speaking of trees, you can drill the toothpick to receive branches (tiny ones) al-la-Jack Work method and you have young HO trees or O scale seedlings.

At the Board of Directors meeting at the Dallas Convention, President John Lowrance established a committee consisting of himself as chairman, Miles Hale, Ben Pearlman, and Price Bradshaw to develop a Region Car Sale.

A motion by Ben Pearlman, second by Miles Hale to "Proceed with securing 100 Life Membership patches to be secured by Jim Long's source in Pearland".

Larry Redmond reported that Houston will present a bid package at the National Convention in Milwaukee on July 29, 1985 to host the 1989 National Convention in Houston. If Houston receives the 1989 National Convention it will be necessary to replace Houston in the LSR rotation cities for 1988.

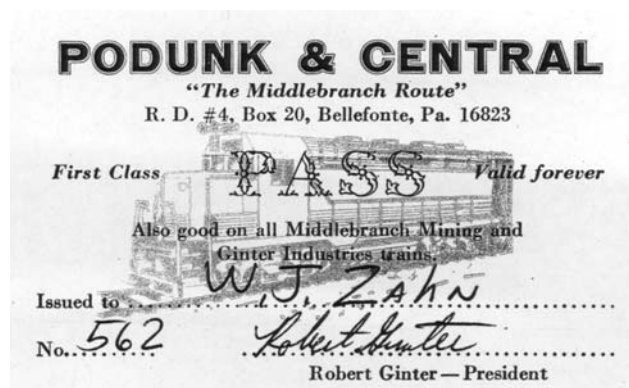
Pass Exchange

There seems to be an interest in the Lone Star Region to bring the Pass Exchange program back to life. Walter Zahn has decided to work on renewing interest in this program. If you are interested in participating please send him 2 samples of your pass and in return you will get a pass and a list of Active pass exchangers. Walter will review the passes and send a pass of the quarter that will be displayed in the *Marker Lamp*.

Please help Walter get this program moving again. Send you passes to:

Walter Zahn
3309 Point East Drive
Mesquite, Texas 75150-2645

PASS of the Quarter



The above PASS for the Podunk & Central was a sent to Walter by Bob Ginter of Bellefonte, PA. It has all the attributes of most prototype passes, printed on good quality cardstock, rounded corners and the large word PASS in the center leaves no doubt as to its use.

According to Walter no activity from Texas so lest get some passes submitted this quarter to Walter, I know they are out there since I have seen some in the contest room.



Cowcatcher Division 1

by Chris Atkins

Hope you all aren't having too hot of a summer. I'm currently attending the NP Historical Society convention in Spokane, Washington, so I'll keep this brief.

In May, we had a division meeting at the Texas Western club. Darrell Cowles presented the second half of his Ft. Worth Railroad History clinic. Darrell picked up where he left off with lots of great information about some of Ft. Worth's more notorious citizens.

I was very glad to see many of you in San Antonio at the annual meeting. I know a few of the regulars from our area weren't able to make it, and I can assure you that you all were missed. In your absence, we soldiered on and the group in San Antonio put on a great convention.

Next year's convention will be held in the division directly to the west of ours, so I'm sure we'll see you all in Lubbock.

As I write this, the next division meeting will be July 31 in room 5 of the LMRA admin building. Cowcatcher Division member Bob Mangrum will be presenting a clinic on track warrant operations. We are going to change up our contest by having a popular vote model photography contest this time. We won't schedule the next meeting until then, but look for it to be around the 3rd Saturday in September.

Speaking of Bob, he is one certificate away from his Master Model Railroader Certification. He is currently working on the Volunteer certificate, and if there is one thing that the LSR is always looking for it's volunteers. Bob was "volunteered" to become our newest Youth Program Chairman. Please welcome Bob to his new post by nominating a youth in the division for next year's scholarship.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting. If you have any questions or suggestions, you can contact me at chris@railroadmodelers.com. More information can be found at <http://cowcatcherdivision.com>



Bayou Division 2

by Dick Schneider

Well, it's here in all its blistering glory. Our heat index hovers around 103 degrees each and every morning. The solution is to stay inside, drink plenty of liquids, and do plenty of modeling.

I really got involved this last quarter. Visited with and operated on Lou Shoultz's layout. Lou was still operating a combined roster of steam and diesel. Everyone worked diligently and the layout ran well.

Visited down South in Houma to see how Art Houston was faring. Art has completed about four years of work on his GRANDE PACIFIC in the four months since I last saw his layout. I'm not the jealous type, but if I still had Three-Fingered Tonys' cell phone number, I might consider giving him a call. I have to admit. Art is a hustler. He is always into something. He just put into motion a 10 person team to travel to Belle Vista, AR, and operate with the "Hograils". The group leaves early tomorrow at 0-dark-30 for Belle Vista. I'm writing this article earlier than usual as I am fortunate enough to be one of the participants.

I also spent a weekend with the Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroad Club in Jackson, LA. The club was sponsoring an Open House and serving hot dogs, burgers, sodas, etc. and a good time was had by all. GBRMC has a large HO layout, a medium N scale layout, and a full size tin plate (Lionel)(O) layout. The Unique aspect of GBMRC is that it has a very active live steam group layout as well. The live steamers operate on the same scale as LGB or Garden Railways. It is really neat to see these locomotives operated remotely and powered by steam. The locomotives are quite powerful and heavy enough to give a hernia. This is a real sight to see.

Well, the LSR Convention for 2010 is over, but won't soon be forgotten. I can't believe that we have had so many conventions in a row where each convention is better than its predecessor. I, personally hope this tradition continues as there is a small group in Bayou Division II that is giving a very close look at presenting a bid to the LSR Board to sponsor the 2013 LSR Convention. There has been a great deal of interest in this Division in presenting such a bid for some time. Many of us in Louisiana feel it's time to repay Texas for its continuing hospitality to our state.

Sponsoring such an event is quite an investment in time and People. Time.....we have plenty of retirees. People.....we have just about enough. Clinical presentations.....we have lots of new ideas and presenters. Places to go and things to see are plentiful in this part of Louisiana. And then there are the Casino's. Didn't they create the saying, "Laissez les bon ton rouler!" – "Let the good times roll!"



North East Texas Division 3

by Jerry Hoverson, MMR

Whew! Summer is here and it sure is HOT! Well this year's convention, the "Alamo Rails", has come and gone. I know I saw a lot of you there, hope you had a great time, I know I did. I got to attend several informative clinics and, as always, had the opportunity to rub elbows with many of my friends that I get to see only once or twice a year.

There's some big news to report. We held a naming contest and then voted in a new name for Division 3, the "Trinity

River Division". The next step in this evolution will to design a new logo to go with the new name, then we'll be looking at Patches, T-Shirts, Caps, etc., etc.....

The Trinity River Division has been busy as usual with our monthly meetings at the Nicholson Memorial Library, 625 Austin Street, downtown Garland where we meet on the third Saturday of every month at 10:15. Speaking of our meetings, I send out reminders with the upcoming agenda a week or two prior to the meeting via email. If you are not getting this email notification I don't have your current email address. Please send your information to me at [HYPERLINK "mailto:jhoverson@tx.rr.com" jhoverson@tx.rr.com](mailto:jhoverson@tx.rr.com) so I can include you and you can join us for all the fun! Here's what we've been up to since the last report.

May – We did a clinic on how to use DecoderPro to program your DCC decoders and PanelPro for controlling your railroad from the computer and dispatching during operating sessions. We also had Stan Swartz give us all the ins and outs of dealing on EBAY.

June – Didn't have a meeting due to a conflict with the meeting space.

July & August – We started on another achievement, structures, by doing a hands-on kitbashing project. This was a lot of fun and they guys made some great models for their layouts!

As you can see Trinity River Division is doing lots of activities and in the coming months we plan on continuing doing even more. From our helpful clinics to starting work on another achievement to having another mini-layout tour there's always a good time.

So if you're in Trinity River Division or any other division and just want to join in, we're looking at an exciting year coming up with lots and lots of fun railroad things to do.

Take care all and get working on your latest project but most of all get involved with the division and have some railroading FUN!

operating sessions periodically. I have operating sessions about every two months from Sept to May.

There are two train shows coming up early fall – The Centra Mod show in Temple on Sept 18 – 19 and the Austin Jamboree in Round Rock on Oct 23. We plan to have a LSR/NMRA booth at both of these train shows. Some, or maybe all, of the above layouts will be open for touring during the Round Rock show along with several others.

On our Western summer travels, I was able to see the new cut through Abo Canyon on the BNSF double tracking effort. This is a large cut with lots of earth moved. I am writing this from Farewell Bend SP in Oregon on the banks of the Snake River. Across the river is the UP main from Seattle to Chicago with trains going by about every hour or so – double stacks, grain trains and general merchandise. Most of these trains have 3 units on the point and one pushing. A grain train came by with 3 units up front, 4 units in the middle and one on the rear. This is a great place to R&R.

Our prayers continue for **Gil** and **Virginia Freitag** and we hope that Gil will continue to progress in his recovery.

Thanks to the members of Division 4 for electing me as your director. My main interest is in operations. I hope to report on operating activities of Division members as noted above. If you are holding operating sessions, please let me know. If there is something you would like the Division to do, please contact me.



Division 5

by Dave Lamberts

Progress continues to be made regarding the 2011 convention. I have been meeting each week with one of my committee chairman. Unlike 2003, there should be some opportunity for operations at next year's convention.

We are looking into having a Acotton train@ as one of the prototype tours. What would be more natural for west Texas?

The newly reconditioned Harvey house in Slaton will also be added either as a Aprototype@ tour or just an option for anyone who wants to go.

Much to do.



Division 6

by Tom Crosthwait

I hope that everyone that attended Alamo Rails this summer enjoyed the convention and their stay in San Antonio. The



Cen-Tex Division 4

by Jack Merkel

Congratulations and thanks to the Division 6 folks who produced the Alamo Rails convention in June. I am sure a great time was had by all.

On the operations front in Division 4, **Pete Guy** has brought his Conundrum & Pacific RR on line. His RR is a switching layout based around Portland, OR. Pete began holding operating sessions in May. **David Nicastro** continues building his D&RGW RR. He has added a beautiful snow scene at Winter Park, CO. He tried 15 different combinations of materials and techniques before settling on the system that worked. It is a striking scene. David hopes to begin operating sessions this fall. **David Barrow** is holding operating sessions bimonthly. **Edmar Wienskosi** is holding

members of Division 6 that hosted the convention are about to catch their breath and begin the modeling part of model railroading again.

The local clubs and individuals that opened their layouts spent many hours in preparation for the event. San Antonio has several quality railroads to view and to operate. SAMRA's San Antonio and Northern Railroad, recently upgraded their operations with a PBX phone system. If you did not have the opportunity to attend one of their many operating sessions, you missed a real treat.

As I am beginning to get more involved in division 6 events, I hope to be able to bring you updates on those events.

SAMRA's Summer Train show will be held at Live Oak Civic Center, 8181 pat Booker Rd. in Live Oak (San Antonio) on Saturday, July 31 and Sunday, August 1. This will be the first year the event has been held at Live Oak Civic Center. The previous shows have been at Crossroads Mall. I hope you find the time to come out. There are many more vendors scheduled this year than in the previous years.

A couple of months later the Alamo Model Railroad Engineers will host their train show at Live Oak Civic Center on Saturday, October 2, and Sunday, October 3.

As always you are encouraged to attend and support the local organizations. You may even find that one special item this time.

SANTRAK, the San Antonio N-Trak club, is on the verge of completing several cross-over modules. When these new modules are inserted into the existing module configuration, operations are very possible. Actually I was invited to operate one of the test trains to begin populating the layout with freight cars. The key to the smaller size for operations is the picture of the cars on the back of the waybills. This plus the fact that the cars that make up the train are all different colors. You may have an SP boxcar red in color and an SP boxcar silver in color. No two boxcars of the same road name will be the same color. The SANTRAK members seem to be having a lot of fun learning how to make it all work.

ventilation...a number of folks left that one somewhat glassy eyed...including me! But we all learned something! The tours were great; it is unbelievable how many great layouts there are in south Texas...they just keep getting better every year.

As I write this I am also packing for this years National Convention in Milwaukee—one of those multi-tasking things we all seem to be doing. The Ark-La-Tex Club will be setting up at the National Train Show, should be fun, although there will be an awful lot of yankees around!

Upcoming events: do not forget the Texas & Pacific Model Train Show on November 6th & 7th in Marshall, Texas. This show is to benefit the restored T&P station. This is a smallish show, but some great bargains are there, beside, you can go hang out at the station!

Also do not forget about the LMRA Show in October, this is always a great one, Bob Bray and his folks always do a great job. Look forward to seeing you there.

The KCS' Holiday Express will be doing it's Tenth run this year. The schedule is still working its way through the corporate offices, but should be out by 1 September. And yes I will be "elfing" again. I have no idea just where we will go this year, have not received any hints yet.

Back to packing, I will give a full report on Milwaukee in the next installment, so go play trains.



Texas Gulf Division 8

by Ray Byer

Will hope you are staying cool this summer. If you didn't make this years convention you miss out. We had some local members do real good. Father and son team, Barry and Blake Bogs. Barry with his G-scale F-units and Depot. Blake, with his Santa Fe steam engine and freight cars. We had a member from Baytown, Thomas Sandborn, who entered a model in the "What can you do with a \$5.00 kit" contest. And we have another member who needs one more achievement certificate and he will be the next local MMR, this person is Kelly Russel keep up the good work.

The Division has been holding clinics at the Houston Railway Museum. These clinics are to show members how to do things. Some of the clinic we have done are weathering cars, how to lay track, how wire your layout for DCC, etc.. These clinics are set up to run thru Sept. or Oct.

Hope to see all of you in Houston for the Big Texas Train show that the Division is helping with in Oct. 2010 more information will be coming out. So check the Houston Railway Museum and the Division 8 web page for more information. Thanks for reading



Division 7

by Don Kimmell

Hello again North Louisiana, where we are in the typical summer time, hot and humid! Good time to be doing some indoor model railroading.

As usual this year's convention was GREAT! Paul and his gang of volunteers did a wonderful job. The workshops/clinics were inspiring, and a couple were intoxicating...something to do with "paint fumes", and somewhat lacking outside

Pike Ads



We meet Thursdays 7 to 10PM, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month (10 AM to 4 PM). Business meeting, 1st Thursday of the month. Memberships open. From I-40, take the Lakeside exit (#75). Go north on Lakeside 2.2 miles to U. S. Highway 60. Turn right, go east 3.9 miles east. Turn right on I Ave., look for the yellow building with a red roof. P. O. Box 31105, Amarillo, TX 79120 (806) 335-3333. www.amarillorailmuseum.com



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